

The Humble  
**ADDRESS**

Of the Right Honourable the  
Lords Spiritual & Temporal

A N D  
**COMMONS**

In Parliament Assembled,

Presented to  
**HIS MAJESTY**

On the Seventeenth of December 1695

**His Majesties**  
**A N S W E R**

**THEREUNTO.**

**L O N D O N,**

Printed by *Charles Bill* and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd ; Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1695.

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Of the Right Honourable the

Lords Spiritual & Temporal

AND

COMMONS

In Parliament Assembled,

Die Mercurij 18 Dec 1695.

HIS MAJESTY

It is Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, do give Order That the Address made Yesterday, to His Majesty by both Houses of Parliament, and His Majesties most Gracious Answer thereunto, be forthwith Printed and Published.

Matth. Johnson,

Cleric Parliamentar.

LONDON,

Printed by Charles Bill and the Executors of Thomas Newcomb, deceased; Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1695.

be furnished from thence, much Cheaper than can be done by the  
 English: And therefore the Benefit of supplying  
 Foreign Parts with those Commodities, which hath always been a  
 great Article in the Balance of Trade. Moreover, the  
 said Commodities will unavoidably be brought by the Sea into  
 England, by Scotch, both by Sea and Land, to the vast Prejudice  
 of the English Trade and East India Company. And when once that Nation shall  
 Your Majesty in Your Customs. And when once that Nation shall  
**Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Tem-**  
**poral, and Commons in Parliament Assembled.**

*Die Veneris 13. Decembris, 1699*

E the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Com-  
 mons in Parliament Assembled, having taken

into our Consideration the State of the Trade  
 of this Kingdom, Do find, That besides ma-  
 ny other Disadvantages and Difficulties it  
 now lies under, An Act of Parliament, that  
 hath lately Received Your Majesties Royal  
 Assent in Your Kingdom of Scotland, for E-  
 recting a Company Trading to *Africa* and the

*Indies*, is likely to bring many great Prejudices and Mischances to all  
 Your Majesties Subjects, that are concerned in the Wealth or  
 Trade of this Nation; and therefore in all Duty to Your Majesty,  
 and the Care we ought to have of this Kingdom, We do humbly  
 Represent to Your Majesty, that the said Act does provide, That  
 "all Ships, Vessels, Merchandize, Goods, and other Effects what-  
 "soever belonging to that Company, shall be free from all manner  
 "of Restraints, or Prohibitions, and of all Customs, Taxes, Sef-  
 "ses, Supplies, or other Duties Imposed or to be Imposed by Act  
 "of Parliament, or otherwise, for the Space of One and Twenty  
 "Years: And farther, that the said Company, whole Members,  
 "Officers, Servants or others belonging thereto, shall be free both in  
 "their Persons, Estates and Goods Employed in the said Stock and  
 "Trade, from all manner of Taxes, Sefses, Supplies, Excises, Quarter-  
 "ing of Soldiers Transient or Local, or Levying of Soldiers, or other  
 "Impositions whatsoever, during the Space of One and Twenty  
 "Years.

By reason of which great Advantages Granted to the *Scotch East  
 India Company*, and the Duties and Difficulties that lie upon that  
 Trade in *England*, a great Part of the Stock and Shipping of this  
 Nation will be carried thither; and by this Means *Scotland* be made  
 a Free Port for all *East India* Commodities; and consequently those  
 several Places in *Europe*, which were Supplied from *England*, will



be Furnished from thence, much Cheaper than can be done by the *Engliff*: And therefore this Nation will lose the Benefit of Supplying Foreign Parts with those Commodities, which hath always been a great Article in the Balance of our Foreign Trade: Moreover, the said Commodities will unavoidably be brought by the *Scots* into *England*, by Stealth, both by Sea and Land, to the vast Prejudice of the *Engliff* Trade and Navigation, and to the great Detriment of Your Majesty in Your Customs. And when once that Nation shall have Settled themselves in Plantations in *America*, our Commercial Tobacco, Sugar, Cotton Wool, Skins, Masts, &c. will be utterly lost, because the Priviledges of that Nation, Granted to them by this Act, are such, That that Kingdom must be the Magazine for all those Commodities, and the *Engliff* Plantations and the Traffick thereof lost to us, and the Exportation of our own Manufactures yearly Decreased.

Besides these, and many other Obstructions that this Act will unavoidably bring to the general Trade of this Nation, "Another Clause in the said Act, whereby Your Majesty Promises to Interpose Your Authority, to have Restitution, Reparation, and Satisfaction made for any Damage that may be done to any of the Ships, Goods, Merchandize, Persons, or other Effects whatsoever belonging to the said Company, and that upon the Publick Charge, does seem to Engage Your Majesty to Employ the Shipping and Strength at Sea of this Nation, to Support this New Company, to the great Detriment even of this Kingdom.

All which great Prejudices, Inconveniencies and Mischief arising by the said Act, we in all Duty and Faithfulness lay before Your Majesty,

Matth. Johnson,

Cleric' Parliament

His Majesties most Gracious Answer to the Address of both Houses of Parliament, Presented to Him, by them, yesterday at Kensington.

I Have been ill Served in Scotland, but I hope some Remedies may be found to Prevent the Inconveniencies which may arise from this Act.

FINIS

By reason of which great Advantages, and the Dutch and Difficulties that lie upon that Trade in *England*, a great Nation will be carried thither; and by this Means Scotland be made a Free Port for all *East India* Commodities, and consequently those several Places in *Europe*, which were supplied from *England*, will